

**General Assembly**

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 53

Sustainable development**Report of the Second Committee***

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa Gomes (Portugal)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled:

"Sustainable development:

"(a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

"(b) Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

"(c) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

"(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind;

"(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;

"(f) Convention on Biological Diversity;

"(g) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its ninth special session,"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 19th to 23rd meetings, on 25, 26 and 30 October 2006. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in eight parts, under the symbol A/61/422 and Add 1-7.



contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/61/SR.19-23). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, from 2 to 4 October (see A/C.2/61/SR.2-6). Action was taken on the item at the 24th, 25th and 30th to 34th meetings, on 2, 7, 17 and 22 November and 1, 6 and 8 December (see A/C.2/61/SR.24, 25 and 30-34). An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item will be provided in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Item 53

Sustainable development

- (a) **Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development**

Report of the Secretary-General on implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (A/61/258)

Letter dated 12 June 2006 from the representatives of Azerbaijan and Lithuania to the Secretary-General (A/61/93)

Letter dated 6 July 2006 from the representatives of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey to the Secretary-General (A/61/126)

Letter dated 12 October 2006 from the representative of Japan to the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (A/C.2/61/4)

- (b) **Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States**

Report of the Secretary-General on promoting an integrated management approach in the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development (A/61/268)

Report of the Secretary-General on the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (A/61/277)

Letter dated 21 April 2006 from the representative of Samoa to the Secretary-General (A/61/72-E/2006/54)

Letter dated 13 April 2006 from the representative of Seychelles to the Secretary-General (A/61/75-E/2006/49)

Letter dated 13 April 2006 from the representative of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the Secretary-General (A/61/76-E/2006/51)

Letter dated 24 July 2006 from the representative of Azerbaijan to the Secretary-General (A/61/181)

- (c) **International Strategy for Disaster Reduction**

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (A/61/229 and Corr.1)

Global survey of early warning systems (A/C.2/61/CRP.1)

- (d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind
- (e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa
- (f) Convention on Biological Diversity

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports submitted by the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity (A/61/225)

- (g) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its ninth special session

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its ninth special session¹

Report of the Secretary-General on universal membership of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme (A/61/322)

4. At the 19th meeting, on 25 October, introductory statements were made by the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs (under sub-items (a) and (b)), the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator (under sub-item (c)), the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (under sub-item (d)), the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (under sub-item (f)), and the representative of the United Nations Environment Programme (under sub-item (g)) (see A/C.2/61/SR.19).

5. At the 20th meeting, on 25 October, the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States made a statement (see A/C.2/61/SR.20).

6. At the 23rd meeting, on 30 October, an introductory statement was made by the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (under sub-item (e)) (see A/C.2/61/SR.23).

7. At the same meeting, pursuant to section C, paragraph 3 (d), of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316, the Committee held a dialogue with the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and comments were made and questions posed by the representatives of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Nigeria and Somalia (see A/C.2/61/SR.23).

¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/61/23).

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Agenda item 53 (a)

**Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21,
the Programme for the Further Implementation of
Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit
on Sustainable Development****Report of the Second Committee****Rapporteur:* Ms. Vanessa Gomes (Portugal)**I. Introduction**

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 53 (see A/61/422, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 24th, 25th and 31st to 34th meetings, on 2, 7 and 22 November and 1, 6 and 8 December 2006. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/61/SR.24, 25 and 31-34).

II. Consideration of proposals**A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/61/L.16, A/C.2/61/L.51 and
A/C.2/61/L.16/Rev.1**

2. At the 24th meeting, on 2 November, the representative of Japan, on behalf of Brazil, China, the Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Monaco, Mozambique, the Philippines, Singapore, Tajikistan and Thailand, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Year of Sanitation" (A/C.2/61/L.16), which read:

"The General Assembly,

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in eight parts, under the symbol A/61/422 and Add.1-7.



"Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation'), as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,

"Reaffirming the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and reaffirmed in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"Reaffirming the need to assist developing countries' efforts to prepare integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans as part of their national development strategies and to provide access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation in accordance with the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including halving by 2015 the proportion of people who are unable to reach or afford safe drinking water and who do not have access to basic sanitation,

"Reaffirming the necessity to take into account sanitation in complementarity with water, in conjunction with the International Decade for Action, 'Water for Life', 2005-2015,

"Appreciating the ongoing work in the United Nations system and the work of other intergovernmental organizations on sanitation,

"Appreciating also the contribution made by the United Nations Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation and its work on the Hashimoto Action Plan, a compendium of water-related actions which relevant parties should take,

"Deeply concerned by the slow and insufficient progress in providing access to basic sanitation services, and conscious of the impact of the lack of sanitation on people's health, poverty reduction and economic and social development, and on the environment, in particular water resources,

"Convinced that progress can only be achieved through active commitment and action by all Member States, United Nations agencies, regional and international organizations, local authorities, civil society organizations and other stakeholders,

"1. Decides to declare 2008 as the International Year of Sanitation;

"2. Requests UN-Water to serve as the focal point for the Year and to develop, in a timely manner, relevant proposals on possible activities at all levels, including possible sources of funding;

"3. Calls upon Member States, international organizations and other stakeholders, including the private sector, to make voluntary contributions in accordance with the guidelines for international years and anniversaries;

"4. *Encourages* all Members States, the United Nations system and all other stakeholders to take advantage of the Year to increase awareness of the importance of sanitation and to promote action at the local, national and international levels, taking into account the relevant recommendations made in the Hashimoto Action Plan;

"5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

3. At its 32nd meeting, on 1 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "International Year of Sanitation 2008" (A/C.2/61/L.51), submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Benedicto Fonseca Filho (Brazil), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.16.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Egypt, in his capacity as facilitator, announced that Barbados, Belarus, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, China, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Monaco, Mozambique, the Philippines, Singapore, Tajikistan and Thailand wished to sponsor the draft resolution. Subsequently, Angola, Austria, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Burundi, Cambodia, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Eritrea, the Gambia, Grenada, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Malawi, Mongolia, Morocco, Peru, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, Tunisia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the same meeting, the Vice-Chairman, Benedicto Fonseca Filho (Brazil), announced that draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.51 would be reissued under the symbol A/C.2/61/L.16/Rev.1 to include the sponsors.

7. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.51, which was subsequently reissued under the symbol A/C.2/61/L.16/Rev.1 (see para. 24, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.21 and Rev.1

8. At the 24th meeting, on 2 November, the representative of Croatia, on behalf of Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Gabon, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, the Russian Federation and Singapore, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Year of Forests, 2011" (A/C.2/61/L.21), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming its commitment to the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of all Types of Forests and Agenda 21, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted at the Millennium Summit in 2000, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable

Development and the Plan of Implementation adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg in 2002.

"Also reaffirming its commitment to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and other relevant conventions dealing with the complexity of forest issues,

"Recognizing the role of forests and sustainable forest management in poverty eradication and achieving sustainable development, as recognized in the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

"Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/49 of 28 July 2006,

"Convinced that concerted efforts should focus on raising public and political awareness on the sustainable management of all types of forests, as well as avoiding unsustainable exploitation and loss of forest habitats that have been under constant and severe pressure in the whole world,

"1. Decides to declare 2011 the International Year of Forests;

"2. Decides also that the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, will facilitate the implementation of the International Year of Forests, in collaboration with Governments and with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as well as the other institutions that compose the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations, in accordance with their mandates;

3. "Calls upon Governments, national, regional and international organizations, the major groups and the private sector to support activities related to the Year, inter alia, through voluntary contributions, and to link their relevant activities to the Year;

4. "Encourages voluntary partnerships among Member States, international organizations and major groups to facilitate and promote activities related to the Year at the local and national levels, including by creating national committees or designating focal points in their respective countries;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the state of preparations for the Year."

9. At its 33rd meeting, on 6 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "International Year of Forests, 2011" (A/C.2/61/L.21/Rev.1), submitted by the facilitator (Croatia) on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Georgia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Peru, Poland, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Thailand, the

former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine. Subsequently, Afghanistan, Angola, Bolivia, Burundi, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, the Gambia, Georgia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malawi, Moldova, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Palau, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Togo, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

10. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

11. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.21/Rev.1 (see para. 24, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolutions A/C.2/61/L.23 and Rev.1

12. At the 25th meeting, on 7 November, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Oil slick on Lebanese shores" (A/C.2/61/L.23), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972, especially principle 7, which requested States to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

"Emphasizing the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

"Taking into account the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, especially principle 16, which stipulates that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking also into account chapter 17 of Agenda 21,

"Noting with great concern the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the El-Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, causing an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline and extended beyond,

"Noting with appreciation the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Stockholm donor Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

"1. Expresses its deep concern over the adverse implications of the Israeli military attacks on the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

"2. Considers that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and consequently has serious implications for human health,

biodiversity and fisheries, and tourism, all three of which in turn have serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon.

"3. *Calls upon* the Government of Israel to assume its responsibility, in accordance with international law, to adequately compensate the Government of Lebanon, based on principle 16 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, which stipulates that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution;

"4. *Invites* Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to provide financial and technical assistance to the Government of Lebanon in supporting its efforts to clean up Lebanon's polluted shores and sea with a view to preserving its ecosystem.

"5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

13. At its 31st meeting, on 22 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Oil slick on Lebanese shores" (A/C.2/61/L.23/Rev.1), submitted by South Africa on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, as well as Cyprus, France, Greece and Spain.

14. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

15. Also at the same meeting, the representative of South Africa orally revised the fifth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution by deleting the word "donor" before the word "Conference".

16. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.23/Rev.1, as orally revised, by a recorded vote of 138 to 5, with 1 abstention (see para. 24, draft resolution III). The voting was as follows:¹

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of

¹ The delegation of Belarus subsequently indicated that it had intended to vote in favour.

Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Australia, Canada, Israel, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining:

El Salvador

17. Before the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of the United States of America and Israel; after the vote a statement in explanation of vote was made by the representative of Canada (see A/C.2/61/SR.31).

D. Draft resolutions A/C.2/61/L.27 and A/C.2/61/L.60

18. At its 25th meeting, on 7 November, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development" (A/C.2/61/L.27), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 of 20 December 2002 and 57/270 A and B of 20 December 2002 and 23 June 2003, respectively, and its resolutions 58/218 of 23 December 2003, 59/227 of 22 December 2004 and 60/193 of 22 December 2005,

"Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation'), as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,

"Reaffirming the commitments to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and reaffirmed in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"Reaffirming the decisions taken at the eleventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,

"Reaffirming also the continuing need to ensure a balance among economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

"Reiterating that the Commission is the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as a forum for consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, and calling on Governments to support the work of the Commission,

"Reaffirming that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

"Recognizing that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, particularly for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

"Recognizing also that good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development,

"Recalling that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation designated the Commission to serve as the focal point for discussion on partnerships that promote sustainable development, and contribute to the implementation of intergovernmental commitments in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

"Looking forward to the upcoming cycles of the work programme of the Commission as adopted at its eleventh session and their contributions to the further implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

"Recalling the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session, endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2003/61 of 25 July 2003, that the Commission, at its policy sessions, to be held in April/May of the second year of the cycle, would take policy decisions on practical measures and options to expedite implementation in the selected thematic cluster of issues, taking account of the discussions of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting, the reports of the Secretary-General and other relevant inputs,

"Recalling also the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session that the discussions of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting would be based on the outcome of the review session and reports of the Secretary-

General, as well as other relevant inputs, and that, on the basis of those discussions, the Chair would prepare a draft negotiating document for consideration at the policy session.

"Noting with satisfaction that the Commission on Sustainable Development at its fourteenth session undertook an in-depth evaluation of progress in implementing Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, focusing on the thematic cluster of issues on energy for sustainable development, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change, and identified best practices, constraints and obstacles in the process of implementation,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the activities undertaken in the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

"2. Reiterates that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation');

"3. Calls upon Governments, all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility and other intergovernmental organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as major groups, to take action to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and encourages them to report on concrete progress in that regard;

"4. Calls for the effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and for the fulfilment of the provisions relating to the means of implementation, as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

"5. Encourages Governments to participate at the appropriate level with representatives, including Ministers, from the relevant departments and organizations working in the areas of energy for sustainable development, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change, as well as finance, in the fifteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting;

"6. Recalls the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session that activities during Commission meetings should provide for the balanced involvement of participants from all regions, as well as for gender balance;

"7. Invites donor countries to consider supporting the participation of experts from the developing countries in the areas of energy for sustainable

development, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change in the fifteenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting;

"8. *Reaffirms* the objective of strengthening the implementation of Agenda 21, including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes, particularly for developing countries;

"9. *Also reaffirms the objective of* enhancing the participation and effective involvement of civil society and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of Agenda 21, as well as to promote transparency and broad public participation;

"10. *Further reaffirms* the need to promote corporate responsibility and accountability as envisaged by the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

"11. *Reaffirms* the need to promote the development of microenterprises and small- and medium-sized enterprises, including by means of training, education and skill enhancement, with a special focus on agro-industry as a provider of livelihoods for rural communities;

"12. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to make arrangements to facilitate the balanced representation of major groups from developed and developing countries in the sessions of the Commission;

"13. *Also requests* the secretariat of the Commission to coordinate the participation of the relevant major groups in the discussions at the fifteenth session of the Commission, including the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting;

"14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the Commission at its fifteenth session on the state of implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, on the basis of appropriate inputs from all levels, to submit thematic reports on each of the four issues contained in the thematic clusters: energy for sustainable development, industrial development, air/pollution atmosphere and climate change, to be treated in an equal and balanced manner taking into account their interlinkages, while addressing the cross-cutting issues including means of implementation identified by the Commission at its eleventh session;

"15. *Encourages* Governments and organizations at all levels, as well as major groups, including the scientific community and educators, to undertake results-oriented initiatives and activities to support the work of the Commission and to promote and facilitate the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including through voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership initiatives;

"16. *Also encourages* the Commission to provide further guidance on assessing the contribution of partnerships towards the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, taking into account lessons learned

and best practices, identifying and addressing problems, gaps and constraints, with the view of strengthening their effectiveness;

"17. *Invites* the Bureau of the fifteenth session of the Commission to take due account of the envisaged activities of the policy session and to set aside adequate time for negotiations on policy options and possible actions;

"18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled 'Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development', and requests the Secretary-General, at that session, to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

19. At its 34th meeting, on 8 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development" (A/C.2/61/L.60), submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Benedicto Fonseca Filho (Brazil), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.27.

20. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

21. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in his capacity as facilitator, orally revised the draft resolution by deleting the words "in a balanced manner" after the words "thematic reports" in operative paragraph 16.

22. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.60, as orally revised (see para. 24, draft resolution IV).

23. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.60, draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.27 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

24. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I **International Year of Sanitation 2008**

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,¹ Agenda 21,² the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,³ the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development⁴ and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),⁵ as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,⁶

Reaffirming the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,⁷

Reaffirming the need to assist developing countries' efforts to prepare integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans as part of their national development strategies and to provide access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation in accordance with the Millennium Declaration⁸ and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including halving by 2015 the proportion of people who are unable to reach or afford safe drinking water and who do not have access to basic sanitation,

Also reaffirming the necessity to take into account sanitation in complementarity with water, in conjunction with the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015,

Appreciating the ongoing work in the United Nations system and the work of other intergovernmental organizations on sanitation,

¹ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution I, annex I.

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

³ Resolution S-19/2, annex.

⁴ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution I, annex.

⁵ *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

⁶ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution I, annex.

⁷ See resolution 60/1.

⁸ See resolution 55/2.

Taking note with appreciation of the contribution made by the United Nations Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation and its work on the Hashimoto Action Plan, a compendium of water-related actions which relevant actors should consider, as appropriate,

Deeply concerned by the slow and insufficient progress in providing access to basic sanitation services, and conscious of the impact of the lack of sanitation on people's health, poverty reduction and economic and social development, and on the environment, in particular water resources,

Convinced that progress can be achieved through active commitment and action by all States, including at the national and local levels, as well as United Nations agencies, regional and international organizations, civil society organizations and other relevant stakeholders,

1. *Decides* to declare 2008 the International Year of Sanitation;
2. *Requests* the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to serve as the focal point for the Year and to develop, in a timely manner, relevant proposals on possible activities at all levels, including possible sources of funding;
3. *Calls upon* States as well as subregional, regional and international organizations and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and civil society, to make voluntary contributions;
4. *Encourages* all States, as well as the United Nations system and all other relevant stakeholders, to take advantage of the Year to increase awareness of the importance of sanitation and to promote action at all levels, taking into account, inter alia, the policy recommendations adopted by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its thirteenth session as well as, where appropriate, the relevant recommendations made in the Hashimoto Action Plan;
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution II **International Year of Forests, 2011**

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of all Types of Forests¹ and Agenda 21,² adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the United Nations Millennium Declaration³ adopted at the Millennium Summit in 2000, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development⁴ and the Plan of Implementation⁵ adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg in 2002,

Recalling the Convention on Biological Diversity,⁶ the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,⁷ the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,⁸ and other relevant conventions dealing with the complexity of forest issues,

Recognizing that forests and sustainable forest management can contribute significantly to sustainable development, poverty eradication and the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 2006/230 of 24 July 2006,

Emphasizing the need for sustainable management of all types of forests, including fragile forest ecosystems,

Convinced that concerted efforts should focus on raising awareness at all levels to strengthen the sustainable management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests for the benefit of current and future generations,

1. *Decides* to declare 2011 the International Year of Forests;
2. *Requests* the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, to serve as the focal point for the implementation of the International Year of Forests, in collaboration with Governments, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and international, regional and subregional organizations and processes as well as relevant major groups;

¹ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex III.

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

³ See resolution 55/2.

⁴ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁵ *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

⁸ *Ibid.*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

3. *Invites*, in particular, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as the Chair of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, within its mandate, to support the implementation of the International Year of Forests;

4. *Calls upon* Governments, relevant regional and international organizations, and major groups to support activities related to the Year, inter alia, through voluntary contributions, and to link their relevant activities to the Year;

5. *Encourages* voluntary partnerships among Member States, international organizations and major groups to facilitate and promote activities related to the Year at the local and national levels, including by creating national committees or designating focal points in their respective countries;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the state of preparations for the Year.

Draft resolution III

Oil slick on Lebanese shores

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972, especially principle 7,¹ which requested States to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

Emphasizing the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

Taking into account the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,² especially principle 16, which stipulates that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking also into account chapter 17 of Agenda 21,³

Noting with great concern the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the El-Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, causing an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline and extended beyond,

Noting with appreciation the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

1. *Expresses its deep concern* over the adverse implications of the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese El-Jiyeh electric power plant for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

2. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and consequently has serious implications for human health, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, all four of which in turn have serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon;

3. *Calls upon* the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment;

4. *Encourages* Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to provide financial and technical assistance to the Government of Lebanon in supporting its efforts to clean up the polluted shores and sea of Lebanon with a view to preserving its ecosystem;

¹ See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one, chap. I.

² *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution I, annex I.

³ *Ibid.*, annex II.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

Draft resolution IV
Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further
Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World
Summit on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 of 20 December 2002 and 57/270 A and B of 20 December 2002 and 23 June 2003, respectively, and its resolutions 58/218 of 23 December 2003, 59/227 of 22 December 2004 and 60/193 of 22 December 2005,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,¹ Agenda 21,² the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,³ the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development⁴ and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),⁵ as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,⁶

Reaffirming the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,⁷

Reaffirming the decisions taken at the eleventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,

Reiterating that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, and reaffirming the continuing need to ensure a balance among economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

¹ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

³ Resolution S-19/2, annex.

⁴ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁵ *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

⁶ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁷ See resolution 60/1.

Recognizing that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,⁸

Recognizing also that good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development,

Recalling that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation designated the Commission to serve as the focal point for discussion on partnerships that promote sustainable development and contribute to the implementation of intergovernmental commitments in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

Recalling also the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session⁹ that the Commission, during the review year, should discuss the contribution of partnerships towards supporting the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation with a view to sharing lessons learned and best practices, identifying and addressing problems, gaps and constraints, and providing further guidance, including on reporting, during policy years, as necessary,

Looking forward to the upcoming cycles of the work programme of the Commission as adopted at its eleventh session¹⁰ and their contributions to the further implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Recalling the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session,¹¹ endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2003/61 of 25 July 2003, that the Commission, at its policy sessions, to be held in April/May of the second year of the cycle, would take policy decisions on practical measures and options to expedite implementation in the selected thematic cluster of issues, taking account of the discussions of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting, the reports of the Secretary-General and other relevant inputs,

Recalling also the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session¹² that the discussions of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting would be based on the outcome of the review session and reports of the Secretary-General, as well as other relevant inputs, and that, on the basis of those discussions, the Chair would prepare a draft negotiating document for consideration at the policy session,

⁸ See resolution 55/2.

⁹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9 (E/2003/29)*, chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, para. 3 (a).

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, draft resolution I.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, para. 2 (h).

¹² *Ibid.*, para. 2 (g).

Recognizing the importance of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting to discuss policy options and possible actions to address the constraints and obstacles in the process of implementation identified during the review year,

Noting with satisfaction that the Commission at its fourteenth session undertook an in-depth evaluation of progress in implementing Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, focusing on the thematic cluster of issues on energy for sustainable development, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change, and identified best practices, constraints and obstacles in the process of implementation;¹³

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the activities undertaken in the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;¹⁴

2. *Reiterates* that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and those contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation");¹⁵

3. *Calls upon* Governments, all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility and other intergovernmental organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as major groups, to take action to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and encourages them to report on concrete progress in that regard,

4. *Calls for* the effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and for the fulfilment of the provisions relating to the means of implementation, as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Commission on Sustainable Development is the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as a forum for the consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, and calls upon Governments to support the work of the Commission;

6. *Encourages* Governments to participate at the appropriate level with representatives, including ministers, from the relevant departments and organizations working in the areas of energy for sustainable development, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change, as well as finance, in the fifteenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting,

¹³ *Ibid.*, 2006, Supplement No. 9 (E/2006/29), chap. II.

¹⁴ A/61/258.

7. *Recalls* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session¹⁵ that activities during Commission meetings should provide for the balanced involvement of participants from all regions, as well as for gender balance;

8. *Invites* donor countries to consider supporting the participation of representatives from the developing countries in the areas of energy for sustainable development, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change in the fifteenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting;

9. *Reaffirms* the objective of strengthening the implementation of Agenda 21,¹⁷ including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes, in particular for developing countries;

10. *Also reaffirms* the objective of enhancing the participation and effective involvement of civil society and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of Agenda 21, as well as promoting transparency and broad public participation;

11. *Further reaffirms* the need to promote corporate responsibility and accountability as envisaged by the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

12. *Reaffirms* the need to promote the development of microenterprises and small- and medium-sized enterprises, including by means of training, education and skill enhancement, with a special focus on agro-industry as a provider of livelihoods for rural communities;

13. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to make arrangements to facilitate the balanced representation of major groups from developed and developing countries in the sessions of the Commission;

14. *Also requests* the secretariat of the Commission to coordinate the participation of the relevant major groups, in the discussions at the fifteenth session of the Commission, including the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting;

15. *Reiterates* its invitation to the relevant United Nations agencies, programmes and funds, the Global Environmental Facility and international and regional financial and trade institutions, within their mandates, to participate actively in the work of the Commission;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the Commission at its fifteenth session, on the basis of appropriate inputs from all levels, to submit thematic reports on each of the four issues contained in the thematic cluster of issues on energy for sustainable development, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change, taking into account their interlinkages, while addressing the cross-cutting issues, including means of implementation identified by the Commission at its eleventh session and taking into account also the relevant provisions of paragraphs 10, 14 and 15 of draft resolution I adopted by the Commission at its eleventh session;¹⁶

17. *Encourages* Governments and organizations at all levels, as well as major groups, including the scientific community and educators, to undertake results-oriented initiatives and activities to support the work of the Commission and to

¹⁵ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9 (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, para. 2 (j).*

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, chap. I, sect. A.

promote and facilitate the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21³ and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including through voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership initiatives;

18. *Underlines* the importance of setting aside adequate time for all envisaged activities in the policy session, including for negotiations on policy options and possible actions, at the fifteenth session of the Commission, and in this regard notes the importance of having all required documents, including the Chair's draft negotiating document, made available for consideration prior to the beginning of the session;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development", and requests the Secretary-General, at that session, to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution.



General Assembly

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 53 (a)

Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa Gomes (Portugal)

Corrigendum

Section II.C

After paragraph 17, insert a new paragraph 18, *reading:*

18. After the vote, statements were made by the representatives of South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Lebanon.

and renumber the remaining paragraphs accordingly.



**General Assembly**

Distr.: General
13 December 2006

Original: English

Sixty-first session

Agenda item 53 (b)

**Sustainable development: follow-up to and implementation
of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of
the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development
of Small Island Developing States**

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa Gomes (Portugal)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 53 (see A/61/422, para. 2). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 24th, 25th, 30th and 34th meetings, on 2, 7 and 17 November and 8 December 2006. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/61/SR.24, 25, 30 and 34).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/61/L.18 and A/C.2/61/L.42

2. At the 24th meeting, on 2 November, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" (A/C.2/61/L.18), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming the Declaration of Barbados and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in eight parts, under the symbol A/61/422 and Add.1-7.



Developing States, and recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference,

"Reaffirming also the Mauritius Declaration and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States ('Mauritius Strategy for Implementation'), adopted by the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States on 14 January 2005, and recalling its resolutions 59/311 of 14 July 2005 and 60/194 of 22 December 2005,

"Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"Welcoming the decision taken by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its thirteenth session to devote one day of its review sessions to the review of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, focusing on that year's thematic cluster, as well as on any new developments in the sustainable development efforts of small island developing States using existing modalities, and to request the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Commission at its review session on progress in and obstacles to sustainable development in small island developing States, including recommendations to enhance the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

"Recognizing the urgent need for increased financial and technical resources for the effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. Welcomes the renewed commitment of the international community to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

"3. Urges Governments and all relevant international and regional organizations, United Nations funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions, international financial institutions and the Global Environment Facility, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and major groups, to take timely action for the effective implementation of and follow-up to the Mauritius Declaration and the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, including the further development and operationalization of concrete projects and programmes;

"4. Calls for the full and effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and targets adopted at the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and, to this end, for the fulfilment of the provisions for the means of implementation, as contained in the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, and encourages small island developing States and their development partners to continue to consult widely in order to develop further concrete projects and programmes for the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

"5. *Encourages* the implementation of partnership initiatives, within the framework of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, in support of the sustainable development of small island developing States;

"6. *Urges* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Small Island Developing States Unit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs is sufficiently and sustainably staffed to undertake its broad range of mandated functions with a view to ensuring the full and effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

"7. *Calls for* the provision of new and additional resources for the revitalization of the Small Island Developing States Information Network;

"8. *Requests* the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to mainstream the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation in their work programmes and to establish a focal point for matters related to small island developing States within their respective secretariats;

"9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

"10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session, under the item entitled 'Sustainable development', the sub-item entitled 'Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States'."

3. At its 30th meeting, on 17 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" (A/C.2/61/L.42), submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Benedicto Fonseca Filho (Brazil), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.18.

4. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.42 (see A/C.2/61/SR.30).

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.42 (see para. 15, draft resolution I).

6. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (see A/C.2/61/SR.30).

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.42, draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.18 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/61/L.30 and A/C.2/61/L.67

8. At the 25th meeting, on 7 November, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Recognition of the

Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development" (A/C.2/61/L.30), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming the principles and commitments enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the principles embodied in the Declaration of Barbados, the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation'), as well as other relevant declarations and international instruments,

"Taking into account all other relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolutions 54/225 of 22 December 1999, 55/203 of 20 December 2000, 57/261 of 20 December 2002 and 59/230 of 22 December 2004,

"Taking into account also the Mauritius Strategy for the further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, in particular paragraph 31,

"Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"Recalling the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, signed at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 24 March 1983, and its Protocols, which contains the definition of the wider Caribbean region of which the Caribbean Sea is part, and which, inter alia, recognizes the special hydrographic and ecological characteristics of the region and its vulnerability to pollution,

"Emphasizing the importance of national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector as recognized by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,

"Considering that the Caribbean Sea area includes a large number of States, countries and territories, most of which are developing countries and small island developing States that are ecologically fragile, structurally weak and economically vulnerable and are also affected, inter alia, by their limited capacity, narrow resource base, need for financial resources, high levels of poverty and the resulting social problems and the challenges and opportunities of globalization and trade liberalization,

"Recognizing that the Caribbean Sea has a unique biodiversity and highly fragile ecosystem,

"Emphasizing that the Caribbean countries have a high degree of vulnerability occasioned by climate change, climate variability and associated phenomena, such as the rise in sea level, the El Niño phenomenon and the increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters caused by hurricanes, floods and droughts, and that they are also subject to natural disasters, such as those caused by volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes,

"Bearing in mind the heavy reliance of most of the Caribbean economies on their coastal areas, as well as on the marine environment in general, to achieve their sustainable development needs and goals,

"Acknowledging that the intensive use of the Caribbean Sea for maritime transport, as well as the considerable number and interlocking character of the maritime areas under national jurisdiction where Caribbean countries exercise their rights and duties under international law, present a challenge for the effective management of the resources,

"Noting the problem of marine pollution caused, inter alia, by land-based sources and the continuing threat of pollution from ship-generated waste and sewage, as well as from the accidental release of hazardous and noxious substances in the Caribbean Sea area,

"Mindful of the diversity and dynamic interaction and competition among socio-economic activities for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources,

"Mindful also of the efforts of the Caribbean countries to address in a more holistic manner the sectoral issues relating to the management of the Caribbean Sea area and, in so doing, to promote an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development, through a regional cooperative effort among Caribbean countries,

"Welcoming the continued commitment of the member States of the Association of Caribbean States to take the steps necessary to ensure designation of the Caribbean Sea as a special area within the context of sustainable development, as contained in the Declaration of Panama adopted on 29 July 2005 at the Fourth Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Association of Caribbean States,

"Cognizant of the importance of the Caribbean Sea to present and future generations and to the heritage and the continuing economic well-being and sustenance of people living in the area, and the urgent need for the countries of the region to take appropriate steps for its preservation and protection, with the support of the international community,

"1. Recognizes the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, taking into account economic, social and environmental dimensions, as well as the requirements of its users, and in conformity with relevant international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

"2. Welcomes the creation by the Association of Caribbean States of the Commission on the Caribbean Sea to undertake the strategic planning and technical follow-up necessary to operationalize the decision to recognize the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development;

"3. Calls on the international community and the United Nations system to fully support the efforts of the Association of Caribbean States and its Commission to operationalize the decision to recognize the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development;

"4. Recognizes the efforts of Caribbean countries to create conditions leading to sustainable development aimed at combating poverty and inequality, and in this regard notes with interest the initiatives of the Association of Caribbean States in the focal areas of sustainable tourism, trade, transport and natural disasters;

"5. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the international community to assist, as appropriate, Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to ensure the protection of the Caribbean Sea from degradation as a result of pollution from ships, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances, and from illegal dumping or accidental release of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals, in violation of relevant international rules and standards, as well as pollution from land-based activities;

"6. *Invites* the Association to submit a report on its progress in the implementation of the present resolution to the Secretary-General for consideration during the sixty-third session of the General Assembly;

"7. *Supports* the efforts of Caribbean countries to implement sustainable fisheries management programmes;

"8. *Calls upon* States, taking into consideration the Convention on Biological Diversity, to develop national, regional and international programmes for halting the loss of marine biodiversity in the Caribbean Sea, in particular fragile ecosystems, such as coral reefs;

"9. *Invites* intergovernmental organizations within the United Nations system to continue their efforts to assist Caribbean countries in becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols and in implementing them effectively;

"10. *Calls upon* the international community, the United Nations system and the multilateral financial institutions, and invites the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, to support actively national and regional activities towards the above-mentioned decision;

"11. *Urges* the United Nations system and the international community to continue to provide aid and assistance to the countries of the Caribbean region in the implementation of their long-term programmes of disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, management, relief and recovery, based on their development priorities, through the integration of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction into a comprehensive approach to sustainable development;

"12. *Calls upon* Member States to improve as a matter of priority their emergency response capabilities and the containment of environmental damage, particularly in the Caribbean Sea, in the event of natural disasters or of an accident or incident relating to maritime navigation;

"13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its sixty-second session, under the sub-item entitled 'Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States' of the item entitled 'Sustainable development', on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account the views expressed by relevant regional organizations."

9. At its 34th meeting, on 8 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations" (A/C.2/61/L.67), submitted by the Vice-Chairman of

the Committee, Benedicto Fonseca Filho (Brazil), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.30.

10. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

11. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Peru, in his capacity as facilitator, orally corrected the draft resolution.

12. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.67, as orally corrected (see para. 15, draft resolution II).

13. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), the United States of America, Turkey, France (also on behalf of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Barbados (on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago) and Japan (see A/C.2/61/SR.34).

14. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.67, draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.30 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

15. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I

Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration of Barbados¹ and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,² adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference,

Reaffirming also the Mauritius Declaration³ and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States ("Mauritius Strategy for Implementation"),⁴ adopted by the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States on 14 January 2005, and recalling its resolutions 59/311 of 14 July 2005 and 60/194 of 22 December 2005,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,⁵

Welcoming the decision taken by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its thirteenth session⁶ to devote one day of its review sessions to the review of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, focusing on that year's thematic cluster, as well as on any new developments in the sustainable development efforts of small island developing States using existing modalities, and to request the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Commission at its review session on progress in and obstacles to sustainable development in small island developing States, including recommendations to enhance the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

Recognizing the urgent need to mobilize resources from all sources for the effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

¹ *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution I, annex I.

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

³ *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution I, annex I.

⁴ *Ibid.*, annex II.

⁵ See resolution 60/1.

⁶ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 9 (E/2005/29)*, resolution 13/1.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁷
2. *Welcomes* the renewed commitment of the international community to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;²
3. *Urges* Governments and all relevant international and regional organizations, United Nations funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions, international financial institutions and the Global Environment Facility, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and major groups, to take timely action for the effective implementation of and follow-up to the Mauritius Declaration¹ and the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,⁴ including the further development and operationalization of concrete projects and programmes;
4. *Calls for* the full and effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and targets adopted at the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and, to this end, for the fulfilment of the provisions for the means of implementation, as contained in the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, and encourages small island developing States and their development partners to continue to consult widely in order to develop further concrete projects and programmes for the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;
5. *Invites* the Commission on Sustainable Development to devote one half day of its intergovernmental preparatory meeting to discussing policy options for addressing the barriers and constraints facing small island developing States in the four thematic areas of the session, taking into account the review of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation conducted during the fourteenth session of the Commission;
6. *Encourages* the implementation of partnership initiatives, within the framework of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, in support of the sustainable development of small island developing States;
7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to strengthen the Small Island Developing States Unit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, as called for in its resolutions 57/262 of 20 December 2002, 58/213 A of 23 December 2003, 59/229 of 22 December 2004, 59/311 of 14 July 2005 and 60/194 of 22 December 2005, and urges the Secretary-General to ensure that the Unit is sufficiently and sustainably staffed without delay to undertake its broad range of mandated functions with a view to facilitating the full and effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, within existing resources, including by redeploying resources;
8. *Calls for* the provision of new and additional voluntary resources for the revitalization of the Small Island Developing States Information Network;
9. *Requests* the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to mainstream the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation in their work programmes and to establish a focal point for matters related to small island developing States within their respective secretariats;

⁷ A/61/277.

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States".

Draft resolution II

Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles and commitments enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,⁸ the principles embodied in the Declaration of Barbados,⁹ the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,¹⁰ the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development¹¹ and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),¹² as well as other relevant declarations and international instruments,

Recalling the Declaration and review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,¹³

Taking into account all other relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolutions 54/225 of 22 December 1999, 55/203 of 20 December 2000, 57/261 of 20 December 2002 and 59/230 of 22 December 2004,

Taking into account also the Mauritius Strategy for the further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,¹⁴

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,¹⁵

Recalling also the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, signed at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 24 March 1983,¹⁶ and its protocols, which contain the definition of the wider Caribbean region of which the Caribbean Sea is part,

⁸ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. 1, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), resolution I, annex I.

⁹ *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution I, annex I.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, annex II.

¹¹ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution I, annex.

¹² *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

¹³ See resolution S-22/2, annex.

¹⁴ *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution I, annex II.

¹⁵ See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

¹⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1506, No. 25974.

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,¹⁷ which provides the overall legal framework for ocean activities, and emphasizing its fundamental character, conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

Emphasizing the importance of national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector as recognized by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,¹⁸

Recalling the relevant work done by the International Maritime Organization,

Considering that the Caribbean Sea area includes a large number of States, countries and territories, most of which are developing countries and small island developing States that are ecologically fragile, structurally weak and economically vulnerable and are also affected, inter alia, by their limited capacity, narrow resource base, need for financial resources, high levels of poverty and the resulting social problems and the challenges and opportunities of globalization and trade liberalization,

Recognizing that the Caribbean Sea has a unique biodiversity and highly fragile ecosystem,

Emphasizing that the Caribbean countries have a high degree of vulnerability occasioned by climate change, climate variability and associated phenomena, such as the rise in sea level, the El Niño phenomenon and the increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters caused by hurricanes, floods and droughts, and that they are also subject to natural disasters, such as those caused by volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes,

Bearing in mind the heavy reliance of most of the Caribbean economies on their coastal areas, as well as on the marine environment in general, to achieve their sustainable development needs and goals,

Acknowledging that the intensive use of the Caribbean Sea for maritime transport, as well as the considerable number and interlocking character of the maritime areas under national jurisdiction where Caribbean countries exercise their rights and duties under international law, present a challenge for the effective management of the resources,

Noting the problem of marine pollution caused, inter alia, by land-based sources and the continuing threat of pollution from ship-generated waste and sewage, as well as from the accidental release of hazardous and noxious substances in the Caribbean Sea area,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency on safety of transport of radioactive materials,

¹⁷ See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

¹⁸ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. 1, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution I, annex II.

Mindful of the diversity and dynamic interaction and competition among socio-economic activities for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources,

Mindful also of the efforts of the Caribbean countries to address in a more holistic manner the sectoral issues relating to the management of the Caribbean Sea area and, in so doing, to promote an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development, through a regional cooperative effort among Caribbean countries,

Welcoming the continued efforts of the member States of the Association of Caribbean States to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, and noting in this regard the commitment by Heads of State and Government of the Association of Caribbean States to further develop their concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area within the context of sustainable development, as referenced in paragraph 31 of the Mauritius Strategy, and without prejudice to relevant international law,

Cognizant of the importance of the Caribbean Sea to present and future generations and to the heritage and the continuing economic well-being and sustenance of people living in the area, and the urgent need for the countries of the region to take appropriate steps for its preservation and protection, with the support of the international community,

1. *Recognizes* that the unique biodiversity and highly fragile ecosystem of the Caribbean Sea require that Caribbean States and relevant regional and international development partners work together to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources including, inter alia, the further development of their concept of the designation of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, without prejudice to relevant international law;

2. *Takes note with interest* of the creation by the Association of Caribbean States of the Commission on the Caribbean Sea;

3. *Takes note* of the efforts of the Caribbean States to further develop their concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, without prejudice to relevant international law, and invites the international community to recognize such efforts;

4. *Recognizes* the efforts of Caribbean countries to create conditions leading to sustainable development aimed at combating poverty and inequality, and in this regard notes with interest the initiatives of the Association of Caribbean States in the focal areas of sustainable tourism, trade, transport and natural disasters;

5. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the international community to assist, as appropriate, Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to ensure the protection of the Caribbean Sea from degradation as a result of pollution from ships, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances, and from illegal dumping or accidental release of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals, in violation of relevant international rules and standards, as well as pollution from land-based activities;

6. *Invites* the Association to submit a report on its progress in the implementation of the present resolution to the Secretary-General for consideration during the sixty-third session of the General Assembly;

7. *Calls upon* all States to become contracting parties to relevant international agreements to enhance maritime safety and promote the protection of the marine environment of the Caribbean Sea from pollution, damage and degradation from ships and ship-generated waste;

8. *Supports* the efforts of Caribbean countries to implement sustainable fisheries management programmes;

9. *Calls upon* States, taking into consideration the Convention on Biological Diversity,¹⁹ to develop national, regional and international programmes to halt the loss of marine biodiversity in the Caribbean Sea, in particular fragile ecosystems, such as coral reefs;

10. *Invites* Member States and intergovernmental organizations within the United Nations system to continue their efforts to assist Caribbean countries in becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols concerning the management, protection and sustainable utilization of Caribbean Sea resources and in implementing them effectively;

11. *Calls upon* the international community, the United Nations system and the multilateral financial institutions, and invites the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, to support actively the national and regional activities of the Caribbean States towards the promotion of the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources;

12. *Urges* the United Nations system and the international community to continue to provide aid and assistance to the countries of the Caribbean region in the implementation of their long-term programmes of disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, management, relief and recovery, based on their development priorities, through the integration of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction into a comprehensive approach to sustainable development;

13. *Calls upon* Member States to improve as a matter of priority their emergency response capabilities and the containment of environmental damage, particularly in the Caribbean Sea, in the event of natural disasters or of an accident or incident relating to maritime navigation;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its sixty-third session, under the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" of the item entitled "Sustainable development", on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account the views expressed by relevant regional organizations.

¹⁹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.



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Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa Gomes (Portugal)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 53 (see A/61/422, para. 2). Action on sub-item (c) was taken at the 25th, 30th, 31st and 33rd meetings, on 7, 17 and 22 November and 6 December 2006. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/61/SR.25, 30, 31 and 33).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/61/L.25 and A/C.2/61/L.58

2. At the 25th meeting, on 7 November, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction" (A/C.2/61/L.25), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/219 of 22 December 1999, 56/195 of 21 December 2001, 57/256 of 20 December 2002, 58/214 of 23 December 2003, 59/231 of 22 December 2004 and 60/195 of 22 December 2005, and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2001/35 of 26 July 2001, and taking

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in eight parts, under the symbol A/61/422 and Add.1-7.



into due consideration its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

"Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"Recalling further the Hyogo Declaration, the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters, and the common statement of the special session on the Indian Ocean disaster: risk reduction for a safer future, as adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction,

"Recognizing that the Hyogo Framework for Action complements the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action,

"Reaffirming its role to provide policy guidance on the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

"Recalling that the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction serves as the main forum within the United Nations system for devising strategies and policies for disaster reduction and to ensure complementarity of action by agencies involved in disaster reduction, mitigation and preparedness,

"Expressing its deep concern at the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact within recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, in particular in developing countries,

"Reiterating that, although natural disasters damage the social and economic infrastructure of all countries, the long-term consequences of natural disasters are especially severe for developing countries and hamper the achievement of their sustainable development,

"Recognizing that disaster risk reduction is a cross-cutting issue in the context of sustainable development,

"Recognizing also the clear relationship between development, disaster risk reduction, disaster response and disaster recovery and the need to continue to deploy efforts in all these areas,

"Recognizing further the urgent need to further develop and make use of the existing scientific and technical knowledge to build resilience to natural disasters, and emphasizing the need for developing countries to have access to appropriate advanced and environmentally sound technologies so as to tackle natural disasters effectively,

"Emphasizing that disaster risk reduction, including reducing vulnerability to natural disasters, is an important element that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,

"Stressing the importance of advancing the implementation of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and its relevant provisions on vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster management,

"Recognizing the need to continue to develop an understanding of, and to address, socio-economic activities that exacerbate the vulnerability of societies to natural disasters and to build and further strengthen community capability to cope with disaster risks,

"Noting the Third International Conference on Early Warning, held in Bonn, Germany, from 27 to 29 March 2006,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

"2. Recalls that the commitments of the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters include the provision of assistance for developing countries that are prone to natural disasters and disaster-stricken States in the transition phase towards sustainable physical, social and economic recovery, for risk-reduction activities in post-disaster recovery and for rehabilitation processes;

"3. Welcomes the progress made in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and stresses the need for a more effective integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies, planning and programming; for the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities to build resilience to hazards and for a systematic incorporation of risk-reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes;

"4. Calls upon the international community to fully implement the commitments of the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action;

"5. Invites Member States, the United Nations system, including international financial institutions, regional bodies and other international organizations, as well as relevant civil society organizations, to support, implement and follow up the Hyogo Framework for Action;

"6. Calls upon the United Nations system, including international financial institutions and international organizations, to integrate the goals of and take into full account the Hyogo Framework for Action in their strategies and programmes, making use of existing coordination mechanisms, and to assist developing countries with those mechanisms to design and implement, as appropriate, disaster risk-reduction measures with a sense of urgency;

"7. Calls upon the United Nations system, including the international financial institutions as well as regional banks and other regional and international organizations, to support, in a timely and sustained manner, the efforts led by disaster-stricken countries for disaster risk reduction, in post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes;

"8. Recognizes that each State has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and for taking effective measures to reduce disaster risk, including for the protection of people on its territory, infrastructure and other national assets from the impact of disasters, including the implementation of and follow-up to the Hyogo Framework for Action, and stresses the importance of international cooperation and partnerships to support those national efforts;

"9. *Also recognizes* the efforts made by Member States to develop national and local capacities to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action, including through the establishment of national platforms for disaster reduction, and encourages Member States that have not done so to develop such capacities;

"10. *Invites* Governments and relevant international organizations to consider disaster risk assessment as an integral component of development plans and poverty eradication programmes;

"11. *Stresses* that continued cooperation and coordination among Governments, the United Nations system, other organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other partners, as appropriate, are considered essential to address effectively the impact of natural disasters;

"12. *Notes* all the regional and subregional initiatives developed in order to achieve disaster risk reduction, reiterates the need to further develop regional initiatives and risk-reduction capacities of regional mechanisms and to strengthen them, and encourages the use and sharing of all existing tools;

"13. *Recognizes* the importance of linking disaster risk management to regional frameworks, as appropriate, such as the African Regional Strategy for Disaster Reduction developed within the New Partnership for Africa's Development, to address issues of poverty eradication and sustainable development;

"14. *Calls upon* the international community to support the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards;

"15. *Notes* the proposed establishment of a Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, and decides that as a successor mechanism of the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction, the Global Platform shall serve as the main forum within the United Nations system for devising strategies and policies for disaster reduction and to ensure complementarity of action by agencies involved in disaster reduction, mitigation and preparedness;

"16. *Recognizes* the importance of integrating a gender perspective as well as engaging women in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster management, particularly at the disaster risk-reduction stage;

"17. *Expresses its appreciation* to those countries that have provided financial support for the activities of the Strategy by making voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

"18. *Encourages* the international community to provide adequate voluntary financial contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction, in the effort to ensure the adequate support for the follow-up activities to the Hyogo Framework for Action, and to review the current usage and feasibility for the expansion of the Fund, inter alia, to assist disaster-prone developing countries to set up national strategies for disaster risk reduction;

"19. *Calls upon* the international community, particularly developed countries, including Governments and funding institutions, to invest in disaster risk reduction with a view to implementing the objectives of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

"20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to allocate adequate financial and administrative resources from the regular budget to the Inter-Agency Secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

"21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the result of the Global Survey of Early Warning Systems, including his recommendations on how to address associated technical, financial and organizational gaps and needs;

"22. *Stresses* the need to foster better understanding and knowledge of the causes of disasters, as well as to build and strengthen coping capacities through, inter alia, the transfer and exchange of experiences and technical knowledge, access to relevant data and information and the strengthening of institutional arrangements, including community-based organizations;

"23. *Emphasizes* the need for the international community to maintain its focus beyond emergency relief and to support medium and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and risk reduction, and stresses the importance of implementing programmes related to the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and disaster risk-reduction management in the most vulnerable regions, particularly in developing countries prone to natural disasters;

"24. *Stresses* the need to address risk reduction of and vulnerabilities to all natural hazards, including geological and hydrometeorological hazards, in a comprehensive manner;

"25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, under the item entitled 'Sustainable development'."

3. At its 33rd meeting, on 6 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction" (A/C.2/61/L.58), submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Benedicto Fonseca Filho (Brazil), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.25.

4. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.58 (see A/C.2/61/SR.33).

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.58 (see para. 19, draft resolution I).

6. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran (see A/C.2/61/SR.33).

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.58, draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.25 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/61/L.26 and A/C.2/61/L.45

8. At the 25th meeting, on 7 November, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon" (A/C.2/61/L.26), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 52/200 of 18 December 1997, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/220 of 22 December 1999, 55/197 of 20 December 2000, 56/194 of 21 December 2001, 57/255 of 20 December 2002 and 59/232 of 22 December 2004 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999, 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2000/33 of 28 July 2000,

"Noting that the El Niño phenomenon has a recurring character and that it can lead to extensive natural hazards with the potential to seriously affect humankind,

"Reaffirming the importance of developing strategies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels that aim to prevent, mitigate and repair the damage caused by natural disasters that result from the El Niño phenomenon,

"Noting that technological developments and international cooperation have enhanced the capabilities for the prediction of the El Niño phenomenon and thereby the potential for the preventive actions that may be taken to reduce its negative impacts,

"Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation'), in particular paragraph 37 (i) thereof,

"1. Recognizes the ongoing efforts made by the Government of Ecuador, the World Meteorological Organization and the inter-agency secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to strengthen the International Centre for the Study of the El Niño Phenomenon at Guayaquil, Ecuador, and encourages them to continue their support for the advancement of the Centre;

"2. Also recognizes the technical and scientific support of the World Meteorological Organization to produce regionally coordinated monthly seasonal forecasts;

"3. Encourages, in this regard, the World Meteorological Organization to strengthen the exchange of information with the relevant institutions;

"4. Welcomes the activities undertaken so far to strengthen the International Centre for the Study of the El Niño Phenomenon, through collaboration with international monitoring centres, including the national oceanographic institutions, and the efforts to enhance regional and international recognition and support for the Centre and to develop tools for decision makers and Government authorities to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon;

"5. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the relevant United Nations organs, funds and programmes, in particular those taking part in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and the international community to adopt, as appropriate, the necessary measures to assure the development of the International Centre for the Study of the El Niño Phenomenon, and invites the international community to provide scientific, technical and financial assistance and cooperation for this purpose, as well as to strengthen, other centres devoted to the study of the El Niño phenomenon;

"6. *Welcomes* the decision of the Government of Spain and the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific to become new permanent members of the International Board of the International Centre for the Study of the El Niño Phenomenon, and their commitment to provide economic and technical support;

"7. *Underscores* the importance of maintaining the El Niño/Southern Oscillation observation system, continuing research into extreme weather events, improving forecasting skills and developing appropriate policies for reducing the impact of the El Niño phenomenon and other extreme weather events and emphasizes the need to further develop and strengthen these institutional capacities in all countries, in particular in developing countries;

"8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include a section on the implementation of the present resolution in his report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session under the item entitled 'Sustainable development'."

9. At its 31st meeting, on 22 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon" (A/C.2/61/L.45) submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Benedicto Fonseca Filho (Brazil), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.26.

10. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

11. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.45 (see para. 19, draft resolution II).

12. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.45, draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.26 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

C. Draft resolutions A/C.2/61/L.28 and A/C.2/61/L.44

13. At the 25th meeting, on 7 November, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Natural disasters and vulnerability" (A/C.2/61/L.28), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its decision 57/547 of 20 December 2002 and its resolutions 58/215 of 23 December 2003, 59/233 of 22 December 2004 and 60/196 of 22 December 2005,

"Reaffirming the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, adopted by the World Summit, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,

"Reaffirming also the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters, adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction,

"Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"Recognizing the need to continue to develop an understanding of, and to address, the underlying risk factors, as identified in the Hyogo Framework for Action, including socio-economic factors, that exacerbate the vulnerability of societies to natural hazards, to build and further strengthen the capacity at all levels to cope with disaster risks and to enhance resilience against hazards associated with disasters, while also recognizing the negative impact of disasters on economic growth and sustainable development, in particular in developing countries and disaster-prone countries,

"Noting that the global environment continues to suffer degradation, adding to economic and social vulnerabilities, in particular in developing countries,

"Taking into account the various ways and forms in which all countries, in particular the more vulnerable countries, are affected by severe natural hazards such as earthquakes, tsunami, landslides and volcanic eruptions and extreme weather events such as heat waves, severe droughts, floods and storms, and the El Niño/La Niña events which have global reach,

"Expressing deep concern at the recent increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events and associated natural disasters in some regions of the world and their substantial economic, social and environmental impacts, in particular upon developing countries in those regions,

"Taking into account that geologic and hydro-meteorological hazards and their associated natural disasters and their reduction must be addressed in a coherent and effective manner,

"Noting the need for international and regional cooperation to increase the capacity of countries to respond to the negative impacts of all natural hazards, including earthquakes, tsunami, landslides and volcanic eruptions and extreme weather events such as heat waves, severe droughts and floods, and associated natural disasters, in particular in developing countries and disaster-prone countries,

"Bearing in mind the importance of addressing disaster risks related to changing social, economic, environmental conditions and land use, and the impact of hazards associated with geologic events, weather, water, climate variability and climate change, in sector development planning and programmes as well as in post-disaster situations,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of its resolution 60/196 of 22 December 2005;

"2. *Urges* the international community to continue to address ways and means, including through cooperation and technical assistance, to reduce the adverse effects of natural disasters, including those caused by extreme weather events, in particular in vulnerable developing countries, including least developed countries and in Africa, through the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, including the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disaster, and encourages the institutional arrangement for the International Strategy to continue its work in this regard;

"3. *Stresses* the importance of the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action and the priorities for action that States, regional and international organizations and international financial institutions as well as other concerned actors should take into consideration in their approach to disaster risk reduction and implement, as appropriate, according to their own circumstances and capacities, bearing in mind the vital importance of promoting a culture of prevention in the area of natural disasters, including through the mobilization of adequate resources for disaster risk reduction, and of addressing disaster risk reduction, including disaster preparedness at the community level, and the adverse effects of natural disasters on efforts to implement national development plans and poverty reduction strategies with a view to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

"4. *Encourages* Governments, through their respective International Strategy for Disaster Reduction national platforms and national focal points for disaster risk reduction, in cooperation with the United Nations system, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and other stakeholders, to strengthen capacity-building in the most vulnerable regions, to enable them to address the socio-economic factors that increase vulnerability, and to develop measures that will enable them to prepare for and cope with natural disasters, including those associated with earthquakes and extreme weather events, and encourages the international community to provide effective assistance to developing countries in this regard;

"5. *Emphasizes*, in order to build resilience, particularly in developing countries, especially those vulnerable among them, the importance of addressing the underlying risk factors identified in the Hyogo Framework for Action and the importance of promoting the integration of risk reduction associated with geologic and hydro-meteorological hazards in disaster risk reduction programmes;

"6. *Stresses* that, in order to reduce vulnerability to natural hazards, risk assessments should be integrated into disaster risk reduction programmes at national and local levels;

"7. *Encourages* the institutional arrangement for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to continue, within its mandate, particularly the Hyogo Framework for Action, to enhance the coordination of activities to promote natural disaster risk reduction and to make available to the relevant United Nations entities information on options for natural disaster risk reduction, including severe natural hazards and extreme weather-related disasters and vulnerabilities;

"8. *Stresses* the importance of close cooperation and coordination among Governments, the United Nations system, and other international and regional organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations and other partners such as the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, as appropriate, taking into account the need for the development of disaster management strategies, including the effective establishment of early warning systems that are, inter alia, people-centred, while taking advantage of all available resources and expertise for that purpose;

"9. *Also stresses* that, to reduce vulnerability to all natural hazards, including geologic and hydro-meteorological events, and extreme weather-related disasters, closer and more systematic cooperation and information-sharing between the scientific community and disaster management specialists should be strengthened for disaster preparedness;

"10. *Encourages* the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the parties to the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to continue to address the adverse effects of climate change, especially in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, and also encourages the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to continue to assess the adverse effects of climate change on the socio-economic and natural disaster reduction systems of developing countries;

"11. *Stresses* the need to address risk reduction of and vulnerabilities to all natural hazards including geologic and hydro-meteorological hazards;

"12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to consider the issue of natural disasters and vulnerability at that session, under the sub-item entitled 'International Strategy for Disaster Reduction' of the item entitled 'Sustainable development'."

14. At its 30th meeting, on 17 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Natural disasters and vulnerability" (A/C.2/61/L.44) submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Benedicto Fonseca Filho (Brazil), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.28.

15. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

16. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.44 (see para. 19, draft resolution III).

17. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America (see A/C.2/61/SR.30).

18. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.44, draft resolution A/C.2/60/L.28 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

19. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/219 of 22 December 1999, 56/195 of 21 December 2001, 57/256 of 20 December 2002, 58/214 of 23 December 2003, 59/231 of 22 December 2004 and 60/195 of 22 December 2005 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2001/35 of 26 July 2001, and taking into due consideration its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,¹

Reaffirming the Hyogo Declaration,² the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters³ and the common statement of the Special Session on the Indian Ocean disaster: risk reduction for a safer future,⁴ as adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction,

Recognizing that the Hyogo Framework for Action complements the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action,⁵

Reaffirming its role of providing policy guidance on the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recalling that the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction has been serving as the main forum within the United Nations system for devising strategies and policies for disaster reduction and to ensure complementarity of action by agencies involved in disaster reduction, mitigation and preparedness,

Expressing its appreciation for the work the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction has been carrying out in its mandated functions,

Expressing its deep concern at the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact within recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, in particular in developing countries,

¹ See resolution 60/1.

² A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution I.

³ Ibid., resolution 2.

⁴ A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, annex II.

⁵ A/CONF.172/9, chap. I, resolution I, annex I.

Reiterating that, although natural disasters damage the social and economic infrastructure of all countries, the long-term consequences of natural disasters are especially severe for developing countries and hamper the achievement of their sustainable development,

Recognizing that disaster risk reduction is a cross-cutting issue in the context of sustainable development,

Recognizing also the clear relationship between development, disaster risk reduction, disaster response and disaster recovery and the need to continue to deploy efforts in all these areas,

Recognizing further the urgent need to further develop and make use of the existing scientific and technical knowledge to build resilience to natural disasters, and emphasizing the need for developing countries to have access to appropriate, advanced, environmentally sound, cost-effective and easy-to-use technologies so as to seek more comprehensive solutions to disaster risk reduction and to effectively and efficiently strengthen their capabilities to cope with disaster risks,

Emphasizing that disaster risk reduction, including reducing vulnerability to natural disasters, is an important element that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,

Stressing the importance of advancing the implementation of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development⁶ and its relevant provisions on vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster management,

Recognizing the need to continue to develop an understanding of, and to address, socio-economic activities that exacerbate the vulnerability of societies to natural disasters and to build and further strengthen community capability to cope with disaster risks,

Noting with appreciation the convening of the Third International Conference on Early Warning, held in Bonn, Germany, from 27 to 29 March 2006,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;⁷

2. *Recalls* that the commitments of the Hyogo Declaration² and the Hyogo Framework for Action³ include the provision of assistance for developing countries that are prone to natural disasters and disaster-stricken States in the transition phase towards sustainable physical, social and economic recovery, for risk-reduction activities in post-disaster recovery and for rehabilitation processes;

3. *Welcomes* the progress made in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, and stresses the need for a more effective integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies, planning and programming; for the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities to build resilience to hazards; and for a systematic incorporation of risk-reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes;

⁶ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

⁷ A/61/229 and Corr.1.

4. *Calls upon* the international community to fully implement the commitments of the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action;

5. *Invites* Member States, the United Nations system, international financial institutions, regional bodies and other international organizations, including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, as well as relevant civil society organizations, to support, implement and follow up the Hyogo Framework for Action;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, international financial institutions and international organizations to integrate the goals of and take into full account the Hyogo Framework for Action in their strategies and programmes, making use of existing coordination mechanisms, and to assist developing countries with those mechanisms to design and implement, as appropriate, disaster risk-reduction measures with a sense of urgency;

7. *Also calls upon* the United Nations system, the international financial institutions and regional banks and other regional and international organizations to support, in a timely and sustained manner, the efforts led by disaster-stricken countries for disaster risk reduction, in post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes;

8. *Recognizes* that each State has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and for taking effective measures to reduce disaster risk, including for the protection of people on its territory, infrastructure and other national assets from the impact of disasters, including the implementation of and follow-up to the Hyogo Framework for Action, and stresses the importance of international cooperation and partnerships to support those national efforts;

9. *Also recognizes* the efforts made by Member States to develop national and local capacities to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action, including through the establishment of national platforms for disaster reduction, and encourages Member States that have not done so to develop such capacities;

10. *Invites* Governments and relevant international organizations to consider disaster risk assessment as an integral component of development plans and poverty eradication programmes;

11. *Stresses* that continued cooperation and coordination among Governments, the United Nations system, other organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other partners, as appropriate, are considered essential to address effectively the impact of natural disasters;

12. *Notes* all the regional and subregional initiatives developed in order to achieve disaster risk reduction, and reiterates the need to further develop regional initiatives and risk-reduction capacities of regional mechanisms where they exist and to strengthen them and encourage the use and sharing of all existing tools;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of linking disaster risk management to regional frameworks, as appropriate, such as the African Regional Strategy for Disaster Reduction developed within the New Partnership for Africa's

Development,⁸ to address issues of poverty eradication and sustainable development;

14. *Calls upon* the international community to support the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards;

15. *Notes* the proposed establishment of a Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction as the successor mechanism of the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction, and, taking into account the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, decides that the Global Platform shall have the same mandate as the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction, and requests the Secretary-General to include information on the Global Platform, for consideration by the General Assembly, in his next report;

16. *Decides* that the proposed establishment of the Global Platform should continue to be carried out in an inclusive and transparent manner and be open to all Member States;

17. *Recognizes* the importance of integrating a gender perspective as well as engaging women in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster management, particularly at the disaster risk-reduction stage;

18. *Expresses its appreciation* to those countries that have provided financial support for the activities of the Strategy by making voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

19. *Encourages* the international community to provide adequate voluntary financial contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction, in the effort to ensure adequate support for the follow-up activities to the Hyogo Framework for Action, and to review the current usage and feasibility for the expansion of the Fund, inter alia, to assist disaster-prone developing countries to set up national strategies for disaster risk reduction;

20. *Encourages* Governments, multilateral organizations, international and regional organizations, international and regional financial institutions, the private sector and civil society to systematically invest in disaster risk reduction with a view to implementing the objectives of the Strategy;

21. *Recognizes* the need for adequate financial and administrative resources for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction secretariat, requests the Secretary-General to allocate such resources, within existing resources, for the activities and effective functioning of the inter-agency secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and also requests the Secretary-General to report on this as appropriate;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the result of the Global Survey of Early Warning Systems, including his recommendations on how to address associated technical, financial and organizational gaps and needs;

23. *Stresses* the need to foster better understanding and knowledge of the causes of disasters, as well as to build and strengthen coping capacities through,

⁸ A/57/304, annex.

inter alia, the transfer and exchange of experiences and technical knowledge, educational and training programmes for natural disaster risk reduction, access to relevant data and information and the strengthening of institutional arrangements, including community-based organizations;

24. *Emphasizes* the need for the international community to maintain its focus beyond emergency relief and to support medium- and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and risk reduction, and stresses the importance of implementing programmes related to the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and disaster risk-reduction management in the most vulnerable regions, particularly in developing countries prone to natural disasters;

25. *Stresses* the need to address risk reduction of and vulnerabilities to all natural hazards, including geological and hydro-meteorological hazards, in a comprehensive manner;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

Draft resolution II

International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/200 of 18 December 1997, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/220 of 22 December 1999, 55/197 of 20 December 2000, 56/194 of 21 December 2001, 57/255 of 20 December 2002 and 59/232 of 22 December 2004 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999, 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2000/33 of 28 July 2000,

Noting that the El Niño phenomenon has a recurring character and that it can lead to extensive natural hazards with the potential to seriously affect humankind,

Reaffirming the importance of developing strategies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels that aim to prevent, mitigate and repair the damage caused by natural disasters that result from the El Niño phenomenon,

Noting that technological developments and international cooperation have enhanced the capabilities for the prediction of the El Niño phenomenon and thereby the potential for the preventive actions that may be taken to reduce its negative impacts,

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development¹ and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),² in particular paragraph 37 (i) thereof,

Reaffirming the Hyogo Declaration³ and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,⁴

1. *Recognizes* the ongoing efforts made by the Government of Ecuador, the World Meteorological Organization and the inter-agency secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction which have led to the establishment of the International Centre for the Study of the El Niño Phenomenon at Guayaquil, Ecuador, and encourages them to continue their support for the advancement of the Centre;

2. *Also recognizes* the technical and scientific support of the World Meteorological Organization to produce regionally coordinated monthly seasonal forecasts;

3. *Encourages*, in this regard, the World Meteorological Organization to strengthen the exchange of information with the relevant institutions;

4. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken so far to strengthen the International Centre for the Study of the El Niño Phenomenon, through collaboration with

¹ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

² *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

³ A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

⁴ *Ibid.*, resolution 2.

international monitoring centres, including the national oceanographic institutions, and efforts to enhance regional and international recognition and support for the Centre and to develop tools for decision makers and Government authorities to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon;

5. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the relevant United Nations organs, funds and programmes, in particular those taking part in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and the international community to adopt, as appropriate, the necessary measures to strengthen the International Centre for the Study of the El Niño Phenomenon, and invites the international community to provide scientific, technical and financial assistance and cooperation for this purpose, as well as to strengthen, as appropriate, other centres devoted to the study of the El Niño phenomenon;

6. *Welcomes* the decision made by the Government of Spain and the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific to become new permanent members of the International Board of the Centre, as well as their commitment to provide economic and technical support;

7. *Underscores* the importance of maintaining the El Niño/Southern Oscillation observation system, continuing research into extreme weather events, improving forecasting skills and developing appropriate policies for reducing the impact of the El Niño phenomenon and other extreme weather events, and emphasizes the need to further develop and strengthen these institutional capacities in all countries, in particular in developing countries;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include a section on the implementation of the present resolution in his report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.

Draft resolution III **Natural disasters and vulnerability**

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision 57/547 of 20 December 2002 and its resolutions 58/215 of 23 December 2003, 59/233 of 22 December 2004 and 60/196 of 22 December 2005,

Reaffirming the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development¹ and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,² adopted by the World Summit, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,

Reaffirming also the Hyogo Declaration³ and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,⁴ adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,⁵

Recognizing the need to continue to develop an understanding of, and to address, the underlying risk factors, as identified in the Hyogo Framework for Action, including socio-economic factors, that exacerbate the vulnerability of societies to natural hazards, to build and further strengthen the capacity at all levels to cope with disaster risks and to enhance resilience against hazards associated with disasters, while also recognizing the negative impact of disasters on economic growth and sustainable development, in particular in developing countries and disaster-prone countries,

Recognizing also the need to integrate a gender perspective in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster risk reduction management, with a view to reducing vulnerability,

Noting that the global environment continues to suffer degradation, adding to economic and social vulnerabilities, in particular in developing countries,

Taking into account the various ways and forms in which all countries, in particular the more vulnerable countries, are affected by severe natural hazards such as earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides and volcanic eruptions and extreme weather events such as heat waves, severe droughts, floods and storms, and the El Niño/La Niña events which have global reach,

Expressing deep concern at the recent increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events and associated natural disasters in some regions of the world and their substantial economic, social and environmental impacts, in particular upon developing countries in those regions,

¹ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

² *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

³ A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

⁴ *Ibid.*, resolution 2.

⁵ See resolution 60/1.

Taking into account that geological and hydro-meteorological hazards and their associated natural disasters and their reduction must be addressed in a coherent and effective manner,

Noting the need for international and regional cooperation to increase the capacity of countries to respond to the negative impacts of all natural hazards, including earthquakes, tsunami, landslides and volcanic eruptions and extreme weather events such as heat waves, severe droughts and floods, and associated natural disasters, in particular in developing countries and disaster-prone countries,

Bearing in mind the importance of addressing disaster risks related to changing social, economic, environmental conditions and land use, and the impact of hazards associated with geological events, weather, water, climate variability and climate change, in sector development planning and programmes as well as in post-disaster situations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of its resolution 60/196 of 22 December 2005;⁶

2. *Urges* the international community to continue to address ways and means, including through cooperation and technical assistance, to reduce the adverse effects of natural disasters, including those caused by extreme weather events, in particular in vulnerable developing countries, including least developed countries and in Africa, through the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, including the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disaster,⁴ and encourages the institutional arrangement for the International Strategy to continue its work in this regard;

3. *Recognizes* that each State has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and for taking effective measures to reduce disaster risk, including for the protection of people on its territory, infrastructure and other national assets from the impact of disaster, including the implementation and follow-up of the Hyogo Framework for Action, and stresses the importance of international cooperation and partnerships to support those national efforts;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the Hyogo Declaration³ and the Hyogo Framework for Action and the priorities for action that States, regional and international organizations and international financial institutions as well as other concerned actors should take into consideration in their approach to disaster risk reduction and implement, as appropriate, according to their own circumstances and capacities, bearing in mind the vital importance of promoting a culture of prevention in the area of natural disasters, including through the mobilization of adequate resources for disaster risk reduction, and of addressing disaster risk reduction, including disaster preparedness at the community level, and the adverse effects of natural disasters on efforts to implement national development plans and poverty reduction strategies with a view to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

5. *Encourages* Governments, through their respective International Strategy for Disaster Reduction national platforms and national focal points for disaster risk reduction, in cooperation with the United Nations system, the International

⁶ A/61/229 and Corr.1.

Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and other stakeholders, to strengthen capacity-building in the most vulnerable regions, to enable them to address the social, economic and environmental factors that increase vulnerability, and to develop measures that will enable them to prepare for and cope with natural disasters, including those associated with earthquakes and extreme weather events, and encourages the international community to provide effective assistance to developing countries in this regard;

6. *Emphasizes*, in order to build resilience, particularly in developing countries, especially those vulnerable among them, the importance of addressing the underlying risk factors identified in the Hyogo Framework for Action and the importance of promoting the integration of risk reduction associated with geological and hydro-meteorological hazards in disaster risk reduction programmes;

7. *Stresses* that, in order to reduce vulnerability to natural hazards, risk assessments should be integrated into disaster risk reduction programmes at national and local levels;

8. *Encourages* the institutional arrangement for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to continue, within its mandate, particularly the Hyogo Framework for Action, to enhance the coordination of activities to promote natural disaster risk reduction and to make available to the relevant United Nations entities information on options for natural disaster risk reduction, including severe natural hazards and extreme weather-related disasters and vulnerabilities;

9. *Stresses* the importance of close cooperation and coordination among Governments, the United Nations system, and other international and regional organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations and other partners such as the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, as appropriate, taking into account the need for the development of disaster management strategies, including the effective establishment of early warning systems that are, inter alia, people-centred, while taking advantage of all available resources and expertise for that purpose;

10. *Also stresses* that, to reduce vulnerability to all natural hazards, including geological and hydro-meteorological events and associated natural disasters, closer and more systematic cooperation, and information-sharing on disaster preparedness between the scientific community and disaster managers at all levels should be strengthened;

11. *Encourages* the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change⁷ and the parties to the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change⁸ to continue to address the adverse effects of climate change, especially in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, and also encourages the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to continue to assess the adverse effects of climate change on the socio-economic and natural disaster reduction systems of developing countries;

12. *Stresses* the need to address risk reduction of and vulnerabilities to all natural hazards including geological and hydro-meteorological hazards;

⁷ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

⁸ FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3, annex.

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to consider the issue of natural disasters and vulnerability at that session, under the sub-item entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction" of the item entitled "Sustainable development".



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Sustainable development: protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa Gomes (Portugal)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 53 (see A/61/422, para. 2). Action on sub-item (d) was taken at the 25th and 34th meetings, on 7 November and 8 December 2006. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/61/SR.25 and 34).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.24 and Rev.1

2. At the 25th meeting, on 7 November, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind" (A/C.2/61/L.24), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 54/222 of 22 December 1999, its decision 55/443 of 20 December 2000 and its resolutions 56/199 of 21 December 2001, 57/257 of 20 December 2002, 58/243 of 23 December 2003, 59/234 of 22 December 2004 and 60/197 of 22 December 2005 and other resolutions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of mankind,

"Recalling also the provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including the acknowledgement that the

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in eight parts, under the symbol A/61/422 and Add.1-7.



global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation by all countries and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities and their social and economic conditions.

"Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which Heads of State and Government resolved to make every effort to ensure the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol and to embark on the required reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases,

"Recalling further the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development, the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"), the Delhi Ministerial Declaration on Climate Change and Sustainable Development, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its eighth session, held in New Delhi from 23 October to 1 November 2002, the outcome of the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties held in Milan, Italy, from 1 to 12 December 2003, the outcome of the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties, held in Buenos Aires from 6 to 18 December 2004 and the outcome of the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties with the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Montreal from 28 November to 10 December 2005,

"Reaffirming the Mauritius Declaration and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

"Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"Remaining deeply concerned that all countries, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, face increased risks from the negative effects of climate change, and stressing the need to address adaptation needs relating to such effects,

"Noting that one hundred and eighty-nine States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified the Convention,

"Noting also that, to date, the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change has attracted one hundred and sixty-six ratifications, including from parties mentioned in annex I to the Convention, which account for 61.6 per cent of emissions,

"Noting further the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the need to build and enhance scientific and technological capabilities, inter alia, through continuing support to the Panel for the exchange of scientific data and information, especially in developing countries,

"Reaffirming its commitment to the ultimate objective of the Convention, namely, to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that prevents dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system,

"*Taking note of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,*

"1. *Calls upon States to work cooperatively towards achieving the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;*

"2. *Notes that States that have ratified the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change welcome the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol on 16 February 2005 and strongly urge States that have not yet done so to ratify it in a timely manner;*

"3. *Notes with interest the activities undertaken under the flexible mechanisms established by the Kyoto Protocol;*

"4. *Takes note of the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session;*

"5. *Takes note with appreciation of the offer of the Government of Kenya to host the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the second session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 6 to 17 November 2006;*

"6. *Also notes the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and encourages cooperation to promote complementarities among the three secretariats while respecting their independent legal status;*

"7. *Invites the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the work of the Conference of the Parties;*

"8. *Invites the conferences of the parties to the multilateral environmental conventions, when setting the dates of their meetings, to take into consideration the schedule of meetings of the General Assembly and the Commission on Sustainable Development so as to ensure the adequate representation of developing countries at those meetings;*

"9. *Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the sub-item entitled 'Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind'."*

3. At its 34th meeting, on 8 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind" (A/C.2/61/L.24/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.24.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) At the end of the tenth preambular paragraph, the words "and noting the pending release of the fourth assessment report" were added;

(b) After operative paragraph 1, a new operative paragraph 2 was inserted, reading:

"2. *Notes* the commitments, initiatives and processes undertaken within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, as well as the Kyoto Protocol thereto for those which are parties to it, to meet the ultimate objective of the Convention";

(c) A new operative paragraph 4 was inserted, reading:

"4. *Stresses* that the seriousness of climate change argues for the implementation of the provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change";

and the remaining paragraphs were renumbered accordingly;

(d) Operative paragraph 6 (former paragraph 4), which read:

"*Takes note* of the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its eleventh and twelfth sessions and the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties of the Kyoto Protocol at its first and second sessions";

was replaced by:

"6. *Takes note* of the outcome of the eleventh and twelfth sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the first and second sessions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol";

(e) Operative paragraph 7 (former paragraph 5), which read:

"*Takes note with appreciation* of the recent pledges made by the international community at the fourth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, at the third Global Environment Facility Assembly held in Cape Town, South Africa, in August 2006, and stresses the importance of fulfilment of the commitments";

was replaced by:

"7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the outcome of the fourth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, including the pledges made by the international community to the Trust Fund at the Third Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, held in Cape Town, South Africa, in August 2006, and stresses the importance of the fulfilment of the commitments";

6. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the Vice-Chairman, Benedicto Fonseca Filho (Brazil) (see A/C.2/61/SR.34).

7. Also at the same meeting, the Committee voted on draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.24/Rev.1 as follows:

(a) Operative paragraph 10 was retained by a recorded vote of 108 to 2, with 48 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Japan, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

(b) Draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.24/Rev.1, as a whole, as orally revised, was adopted by a recorded vote of 114 to none, with 49 abstentions (see para. 10). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan,

Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

8. Before the vote on operative paragraph 10, statements were made by the representatives of Finland and Japan, and the representative of Argentina posed a question to which the Chairperson responded (see A/C.2/61/SR.34).

9. Before the vote on the draft resolution as a whole, a statement was made by the representative of Australia, and statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Finland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union and Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey as well as Moldova and Ukraine, Japan and Australia (also on behalf of Canada and New Zealand). After the vote, a statement in explanation of vote was made by the representative of the Russian Federation; subsequently, a statement was made by the representative of France (see A/C.2/61/SR.34).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/222 of 22 December 1999, its decision 55/443 of 20 December 2000 and its resolutions 56/199 of 21 December 2001, 57/257 of 20 December 2002, 58/243 of 23 December 2003, 59/234 of 22 December 2004 and 60/197 of 22 December 2005 and other resolutions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of mankind,

Recalling also the provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,¹ including the acknowledgement that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation by all countries and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities and their social and economic conditions,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,² in which Heads of State and Government resolved to make every effort to ensure the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol and to embark on the required reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases,³

Recalling the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,⁴ the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),⁵ the Delhi Ministerial Declaration on Climate Change and Sustainable Development, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its eighth session, held in New Delhi from 23 October to 1 November 2002,⁶ the outcome of the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties, held in Milan, Italy, from 1 to 12 December 2003,⁷ the outcome of the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties, held in Buenos Aires from 6 to 18 December 2004,⁸ and the outcome of the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties and the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Montreal, Canada, from 28 November to 10 December 2005,⁹

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

² See resolution 55/2.

³ *Ibid.*, para. 23.

⁴ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁵ *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

⁶ FCCC/CP/2002/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.8.

⁷ FCCC/CP/2003/6/Add.1 and 2.

⁸ FCCC/CP/2004/10/Add.1 and 2.

⁹ FCCC/CP/2005/5/Add.1.

Reaffirming the Mauritius Declaration¹⁰ and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,¹¹

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,¹²

Remaining deeply concerned that all countries, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, face increased risks from the negative effects of climate change, and stressing the need to address adaptation needs relating to such effects,

Noting that one hundred and eighty-nine States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified the Convention,

Noting also that, to date, the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change¹³ has attracted one hundred and sixty-six ratifications, including from parties mentioned in annex I to the Convention, which account for 61.6 per cent of emissions,

Noting further the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the need to build and enhance scientific and technological capabilities, inter alia, through continuing support to the Panel for the exchange of scientific data and information, especially in developing countries, and noting the pending release of the fourth assessment report,

Reaffirming its commitment to the ultimate objective of the Convention, namely, to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that prevents dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system,

Taking note of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,¹⁴

1. *Calls upon States to work cooperatively towards achieving the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;¹*

2. *Notes the commitments, initiatives and processes undertaken within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, as well as the Kyoto Protocol thereto¹³ for those which are parties to it, to meet the ultimate objective of the Convention;*

3. *Also notes that States that have ratified the Kyoto Protocol welcome the entry into force of the Protocol on 16 February 2005 and strongly urge States that have not yet done so to ratify it in a timely manner;*

4. *Stresses that the seriousness of climate change argues for the implementation of the provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;*

¹⁰ *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution I, annex I.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, annex II.

¹² See resolution 60/1.

¹³ FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3, annex.

¹⁴ A/61/225.

5. *Notes with interest* the activities undertaken under the flexible mechanisms established by the Kyoto Protocol;

6. *Takes note* of the outcome of the eleventh¹⁵ and twelfth sessions¹⁵ of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the first¹⁶ and second¹⁵ sessions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol;

7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the outcome of the fourth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, including the pledges made by the international community to the Trust Fund at the Third Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, held in Cape Town, South Africa, in August 2006, and stresses the importance of the fulfilment of the commitments;

8. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the hosting by the Government of Kenya of the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the second session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Nairobi from 6 to 17 November 2006, and further takes note with appreciation of the offer of the Government of Indonesia to host the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties and the third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, to be held in Bali from 3 to 14 December 2007;

9. *Notes* the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,¹⁶ and the Convention on Biological Diversity,¹⁷ and encourages cooperation to promote complementarities among the three secretariats while respecting their independent legal status;

10. *Endorses* the continuation of the institutional linkage of the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to the United Nations until such time as a review is deemed necessary by the Conference of the Parties or the General Assembly;

11. *Invites* the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the work of the Conference of the Parties;

12. *Invites* the conferences of the parties to the multilateral environmental conventions, when setting the dates of their meetings, to take into consideration the schedule of meetings of the General Assembly and the Commission on Sustainable Development so as to ensure the adequate representation of developing countries at those meetings;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind".

¹⁵ FCCC/CP/2006/4-FCCC/KP/CMP/2006/8.

¹⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.